

REMARKS

Claims 1-44 have been examined in the Application. Claims 1-44 currently stand rejected.

Claims 1,7,10, 11, 17, 20, 21, 26, 28-31, 34 and 39-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Onno (USP 5,170,272)

Claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12-15, 18, 19, 22-25, 27, 32, 33, 35-38, 43 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) . Applicants respectfully disagree in part with the Examiner's objections and traverse these rejections for the following reasons:

Reply to 35 U.S.C. 102 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 7, 10, 11, 17, 20, 21, 26, 28-31, and 39-42 as being anticipated by Onno (U.S.P. 5,170,272).

In particular, the Examiner indicates that Onno disclosed what is claimed in claims 1 and 11 of the present invention. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of Onno and its application to the present invention.

Claims 1 and 11 of the present invention recite a method and system, respectively, for asynchronously transporting narrowband and broadband transmissions comprising converting narrowband transmissions to and from composite asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) cells by **separating data and signaling portions** of the narrowband transmissions **into separate byte positions** in the converted composite ATM cells. The newly created composite ATM cells include both narrowband and broadband data which can be transmitted over the same transmission link instead of separate dedicated links thereby permitting the entire bandwidth of the transmission line to be available for both narrowband and broadband transmissions. For example, in one embodiment, FIG. 3 shows narrowband **data** using the 48 payload octets 150 of, for example, AAL-0

composite ATM cells, whereas narrowband **signaling** uses signaling cells 152 (e.g., AAL-0 cells) of the same form as the PCM cells 150.

In contrast, Onno does not teach or suggest separating data and signaling portions of the narrowband transmissions into separate byte positions in the converted composite ATM cells as recited in claims 1 and 11 of the present invention. For example, FIG. 2 of Onno discloses a broadband network terminal B.NT2 that receives narrowband data from narrowband terminal adapter N.TA and broadband data from broadband terminal adapter B.TA and transports the data over asynchronous interface Sb. Although Onno may process broadband and narrowband data, it makes no mention of **separating data and signaling portions** of the narrowband transmissions into **separate byte positions** in the converted composite ATM cells as recited in claims 1 and 11 of the present invention. Onno therefore does not anticipate the present invention and claims 1, 7, 10, 11, 17, 20, 21, 26, 28-31, and 39-42.

Reply to 35 U.S.C. 103 Objections

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12-15, 18, 19, 22-25, 27, 32, 33, 35-38, 43 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Onno in view of Hiller et al. (U.S.P. 5,327,421). The Examiner contends that Hiller discloses a system where a plurality of narrowband telephony channels are converted into ATM cells and when taken in combination with Onno, discloses the invention claimed in claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12-15, 18, 19, 22-25, 27, 32, 33, 35-38, 43 and 44. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiners characterization of the combination of Hiller and Onno. As discussed with respect to the Examiners 35 U.S.C. 102 claim rejections above, Onno does not teach or disclose a method that includes converting narrowband transmissions to and from composite asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) cells by **separating data and signaling portions** of the narrowband transmissions into **separate byte positions** in the converted composite ATM cells. Hiller likewise does not teach this features and is instead directed to conversion of a signal stream into ATM cells not **separating data and signaling**

portions of the narrowband transmissions **into separate byte positions** in the converted composite ATM cells as claimed in the present invention. Thus the combination of Onno and Hiller does not teach or suggest the present invention as claimed and does not render claims 8, 9, 12-15, 18, 19, 22-25, 27, 32, 33, 35-38, 43 and 44 obvious.

Request for Reconsideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.111

Having responded to each and every ground for objection and rejection in the Office Action mailed on May 18, 2004, Applicant requests reconsideration in the instant application pursuant to 37 CFR 1.111 and requests that the Examiner allow claim(s) 1-44 and pass the application to issue. If there is any point requiring further attention prior to allowance, the Examiner is asked to contact Applicants' counsel who can be reached at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully,
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